



# FOCUS

SUMMER 2010

REPORT FROM CITY HALL

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## 2010 Fireworks – Safe and Sane

To the Residents of San Bruno,

On behalf of your Mayor, City Councilmembers, and City staff, we hope you enjoy a safe 4th of July holiday. San Bruno is one of two cities in San Mateo County that authorize the sale and use of Safe and Sane fireworks. The revenue from the sale of Safe and Sane fireworks helps many community organizations provide a variety of programs that benefit our youth sports organizations, booster clubs, and non-profit groups. All of these organizations contribute to enhance the quality of life in San Bruno.

To ensure that all residents have the opportunity to have a safe and enjoyable holiday, the Police and Fire Departments will again be providing public education and outreach programs regarding the use of Safe and Sane fireworks. These efforts are necessary because past experience during the holiday has shown continued unsafe practices and the use of illegal fireworks.

Your Police and Fire Departments have partnered with the community organizations and the Safe and Sane fireworks industry to provide a comprehensive public education program. Fire and Police personnel will provide this information to all our schools, service groups, and neighborhood associations to ensure that the safety issues are addressed.

The use of safe and sane fireworks is allowed from June 28th to July 3rd between the hours of noon and 10 p.m. each day, and from noon until midnight on July 4th. Safe and Sane fireworks are only allowed on private property, and at least ten feet away from any residence, building, or structure. Fireworks are not allowed on public property such as streets, parks, schools, or private open areas such as parking lots, or vacant property without the consent of the owner. The Police Department will be visiting households and neighborhoods where the use of illegal fireworks has been a problem in the past. The Police Department will again be enforcing the zero tolerance policy of the use of illegal fireworks in San Bruno. Anyone found using illegal fireworks within the City limits **will be cited and fined up to \$1,000.**

All of our efforts are committed to making this an enjoyable holiday for the entire community. Please do your part to make sure this is a safe 4th of July for the San Bruno community. Questions regarding fireworks in San Bruno can be directed to the Police Department at **(650) 616-7100.**

Neil Telford  
Police Chief

Dennis Haag  
Fire Chief

# CITY FINANCES IN A FRAGILE ECONOMY

The current recession's impacts on the City's revenues are expected to continue through fiscal year 2010-11. Municipalities typically lag behind private industry in economic recovery because a large percentage of our revenues are tax based, such as sales tax, property tax, hotel tax and business license tax. Even though some signs of general economic recovery are emerging, the City does not expect much revenue growth from these sources during the coming fiscal year which begins July 1st.

The City's adopted budget for the past year incorporated staff and expenditure reductions including a 6-day employee furlough and permanent elimination of 10.5 staff positions. Additionally, the City had to make further budget reductions of \$1.3 million in February due to an unexpected additional decline in revenues from the above sources. The budget cuts have resulted in a reduction in public service levels including an increase in public safety response times, reduced Library hours, closure of City Hall on furlough days, and reduction of landscape and open space maintenance.

For the 2010-11 fiscal year, beginning July 1st, the revenue deficit continues. In early June, the City Council conducted public Study Sessions for detailed review of the City's operating budgets. In this economic environment, additional staff and service cuts are required to meet the City's Council's requirement for the establishment of a balanced budget. These include further elimination of staff positions, an expansion of shared services with the City of Millbrae and elimination of some services including reduced hours of operation at the Library, reduced maintenance service to parks and open space landscape, increased response time for non-emergency calls to the Police and Fire Department among others. Look for a more detailed presentation on the City's budget and services in the next issue of **FOCUS**.

## Shared Municipal Services

As part of the City's efforts to address its structural budget gap, in March the City Council authorized an agreement with the City of Millbrae for shared Police Chief services. San Bruno's Chief Telford now splits his time and oversees the Police Departments for both cities. This arrangement is expected to save San Bruno approximately \$137,000 in the 2010-11 fiscal year. Sharing staff and other resources with other nearby cities is a strategy that cities in our area are increasingly considering as a way to reduce costs while maintaining critical services to the community. San Bruno and Millbrae are already leaders in shared services. For the past 3 years, the two cities have shared a Fire Chief and three Fire Battalion Chiefs. The cities are currently exploring additional shared service opportunities in both the Police and Fire services. Over the next several months, the City Council will be evaluating the results of consultant studies to evaluate whether full consolidation or other options might save cost while protecting effective service delivery into the long term.

## San Bruno's New Finance Director

The City of San Bruno welcomed a new Finance Director, Edmund Suen, in April. Mr. Suen is a Certified Public Accountant who has over ten years of management level finance experience in both the public and private sectors. He recently worked as the Finance Director for the City of Emeryville for four years and was previously the Finance Manager for almost four years with the City of Walnut Creek. Besides his public sector experience, Mr. Suen was the Director of Finance for SMG, a worldwide company that provides venue management, marketing, and development.



# FARMERS' MARKET

**Great news!** The San Bruno Farmers' Market has returned to Downtown San Bruno. Building on the success of last year's Farmers' Market, the San Bruno Chamber of Commerce and Pacific Coast Farmers Market have once again teamed up to hold the event on Sundays, between the hours of 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM. The year's market season began on May 2nd and will run through October. The street will be closed to automobile traffic and the booths will be located on San Mateo Avenue between Jenevein Avenue and Sylvan Avenue. If you live close to Downtown, we encourage you to stroll to San Mateo Avenue to enjoy the market. If you live further away, parking is available in the Bank of America and Citibank parking lots. Please bring a friend and visit any Sunday to enjoy the fresh fruit, vegetables, baked goods, live music and activities for children. Visit <http://sanbrunochamber.com> for additional information.



## SHOP SAN BRUNO – Restaurants

Did you know that by shifting just 10 percent of your purchases to locally owned businesses, you can start a cycle that creates more jobs in San Bruno, lightens the City's environmental impact, expands your own shopping and entertainment options, and builds a stronger community? Check out what San Bruno has to offer and shop locally.

The opening of several new restaurants around the City in the past year is a positive sign that San Bruno is holding its own in the lingering economic downturn. So, if you're hungry for a pizza, a cheeseburger, a more formal dining experience, or just want to sit down and chat over a cup of coffee, check out these new venues in San Bruno.

Downtown San Bruno is now home to two mom and pop cafes, **Never Too Latte** and **Carrots Coffee and Tea**, and the upcoming relocation of **Cleo's Brazilian Steak House** to a larger space in the downtown. Cleo's has begun to remodel the interior and exterior of its new space at

446 San Mateo Avenue and is working toward an opening by late October. In the meantime, visit Cleo's at its current location at 451 El Camino Real. New restaurants have also opened at the Shops at Tanforan (**Hooters**), Towne Center (**Famous Johnny's Pizza** and **Quickly**), and Bayhill Center (**Big Mouth Burger**). Finally, **Jack's**, a large family run restaurant in the new retail building on El Camino Real at the Crossing, is currently under construction and scheduled to open in October. Jack's will have a private dining space perfect for meetings, parties and banquets.

### **City to Begin Selling SamTrans Bus Passes**

Effective July 21st, residents, workers, and visitors will be able to purchase August 2010 SamTrans passes at the City of San Bruno's Finance Department business license/utility payment counter at City Hall. SamTrans monthly passes will continue to be available at City Hall each month thereafter. Passes for the coming month go on sale starting the 21st of the previous month until the 7th of the month that the pass is valid.



# MASTICK AVENUE UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Construction on the Mastick Avenue Utility Improvements Project will begin in August 2010. This project will replace water and sewer utility pipes, and resurface Mastick Avenue between Angus Avenue and San Felipe Avenue. Water and sewer pipes in this area are over 50-years old and some are over 80-years old. This is the first of many critical infrastructure improvement projects funded through the rates residents pay for water and sewer services. In order to comply with strict Federal and State regulations and to ensure that we provide our customers with high-quality service, the City will be undertaking a series of water and wastewater projects over the next ten years ranging from well and pump station rehabilitations to replacement of underground pipelines.



With the improvements to Mastick Avenue, residents will not only experience more reliable service, the City expects to see a reduction in staff overtime and other repair costs as the old water mains on Mastick Avenue are particularly susceptible to leaking.



## PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

From May 16th to 22nd, the City of San Bruno celebrated National Public Works Week. Instituted in 1960, Public Works Week celebrates the contribution of the tens of thousands of men and women in North America who work behind the scenes every day to maintain the public infrastructure that supports our daily lives. This year the City invited residents to tour the maintenance yard and meet staff from the Public Services Department. While sipping lemonade made from San Bruno well water, attendees saw an up-close view of equipment used to

maintain the water and sewer systems and the Asphalt Zipper in action as field crews repaired a damaged section of pavement on Florida Avenue. For more information about public works projects, please visit our website at [http://www.sanbruno.ca.gov/pw\\_homepage.html](http://www.sanbruno.ca.gov/pw_homepage.html)

### Below is a snapshot of San Bruno's infrastructure:

- 8 water tanks
- 8 water pumping stations
- 5 water wells
- 100 miles of underground water pipe
- 6 sewer pumping stations
- 75 miles of underground sewer pipe
- 89 miles of road
- 3,000 streetlights
- 12 signalized intersections
- 1,000 storm drain inlets



# WHAT YOU CAN DO TO IMPROVE THE SEWER SYSTEM

It's no secret that the San Bruno wastewater collection system (the "sewer system") is old. Nearly 75% of the underground sewer pipes in the City were installed prior to the 1960s, (some in the early 1900's) meaning that the average age of the sewer system is well over 50-years old. The age of the system makes it susceptible to breaks and to root intrusion that can cause sewer overflows. In order to ensure that local sewer agencies serve as effective stewards of the environment, the State and Federal governments maintain stringent regulations to avoid sewer system overflows that can cause contamination to local waterways and the Bay.

Doing our part, the City Council recently set a policy goal to rehabilitate the sewer collection system and work toward full replacement of the system over the next 25 years. Effective preventative maintenance is another key effort to keeping our system operating without upset. Residents and businesses can play a big role in keeping the sewer system running properly. Here are some tips:

**Be careful what you flush.** All sorts of blockages cause sewer overflows and quite often the culprit is something that shouldn't have been flushed down the toilet in the first place. Do not flush anything except toilet water and toilet paper. Anything else will clog the pipes.

**Inspect and clean your sewer lateral.** The sewer lateral is the section of underground pipe that extends from the building and connects to the

City sewer main. The upper lateral runs from the building to the property line. The lower lateral runs from the property line to the City sewer main. Many sewer laterals are as old as the sewer mains, so the City recommends having a plumber inspect your lateral, repair any problems and install a cleanout connection (a Y-joint connected to the lateral that allows for cleaning of the lateral). When a cleanout is installed, the City will maintain the lower lateral.



**Don't dump grease or oil down the drain.** One of the major sources of sewer overflows in San Bruno is blockage caused by fats, oils, or grease. These materials are typically in liquid form after cooking, but they form a sticky sludge once they cool down, blocking normal sewage flow. Instead of dumping oil and grease down the drain, place these materials (such as bacon grease) into your garbage. Restaurants and commercial kitchens must install a properly sized grease trap or interceptor to collect

used cooking oil. These traps should be serviced on a regular basis.

**Immediately report any sewer overflows.** If you see water coming out of a manhole or your lawn, or if you see a sinkhole forming, immediately contact the **Wastewater Division at (650) 616-7160**. An operator answers this number 24 hours a day who can dispatch a field crew to identify and solve the problem. The sooner an overflow is reported, the more likely the City will be able to capture any liquid before it reaches the storm drain system or local waterways.

# SAN BRUNO CABLE – *The Local Value Oriented Choice*

San Bruno Cable, your local television, Internet and telephone service provider is continuing to make improvements for San Bruno residents. Meeting the needs of San Bruno customers for friendly, efficient and reliable service, San Bruno Cable is usually able to make next day appointments for service calls – at no cost to the customer. Technical support for our video, Internet and telephone services is just a telephone call away 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

We've upgraded our Video-On-Demand services including more hours of free programming and, in the coming months, will be adding 10 new HD channels. DOCSIS 3.0 Internet service with speeds of up to 100 Mbps downstream will be available this Summer. Just in time for the World Cup Events, the Univision and Telefutura, Spanish language stations have returned to the San Bruno Cable line-up.

San Bruno Cable offers all of this and more at competitive prices. We are grateful to our loyal customers for making us the choice entertainment and telecommunication service provider of the community.

## BUSINESS TELECOM SERVICES NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH SAN BRUNO CABLE

**San Bruno businesses no longer need to be** hostage to the large anonymous telephone company. San Bruno's own local municipal cable has added a variety of new business oriented services to provide local businesses not only a choice in service providers, but also an opportunity to reduce operating costs.

**Telephone services** - San Bruno Cable has been the primary Internet service provider of the City of San Bruno for many years and, in January 2010, also became the primary telephone service provider for the City itself. With this service successfully in place, San Bruno Cable is fully prepared to handle the diverse telecommunication needs of local businesses as well.

A host of business phone products are available including a comprehensive standard Business Line service designed for small businesses. This service includes an unlimited national calling plan that is bundled with features such as caller ID, speed dial, voicemail, call waiting, call return, call forwarding, three-way calling, etc. that are necessary to a small business owner.

Medium sized businesses currently using multi-line key telephone systems or PBX systems should consider San Bruno Cable's SIP trunks to cut costs. Businesses can keep their existing Direct Inward Dialing numbers and San Bruno Cable also offers toll free number and virtual number services.

San Bruno Cable's hosted Internet Protocol service is available to any local business that wants advanced features.

**Data Services** - San Bruno Cable's fiber rich infrastructure provides point-to-point Ethernet connectivity service for businesses interested in interconnecting their remote facilities within San Bruno. San Bruno Cable's remote presence at the interconnection facility in San Francisco allows businesses to interconnect to remote facilities outside San Bruno.

The high quality Internet backbone delivers a robust lineup of Dedicated Internet Access over Ethernet services. Medium to large sized businesses that require dedicated access to the Internet with critical network redundancy will be best served by this product. San Bruno Cable's High Speed Internet product lineup is available with speeds of up to 100 Mbps in July 2010.

As a municipal operation, value pricing has always been San Bruno Cable's philosophy. All of these business services are value priced similar to our residential products providing, in many cases, substantial cost savings to businesses over their current service providers. Several businesses that have already switched to San Bruno Cable are enjoying great savings and more are in the process of switching over. **For additional information about these products and services, visit [www.sanbrunocable.com](http://www.sanbrunocable.com) or call 616-3100.**



# CABLE RATE INCREASE

Each fiscal year the San Bruno City Council reviews the rates for cable services and on May 11, 2010 approved a 14.86 % rate increase for video services provided by San Bruno Cable TV. The new Cable TV service rates take effect on July 1, 2010. A rate increase notice has been sent to all customers and a complete product listing and new rates are available on [www.sanbrunocable.com](http://www.sanbrunocable.com).

Increases in costs by the television programming providers are a large part of this rate increase. These are the fees paid to the programming channels you receive which are rising for all video providers. While the Cable rates are generally increasing in 2010, the rates for Limited Basic, High Speed Internet and Digital Phone services will remain at current levels, which continue to be below the market.

**New enhancements are coming!** We've upgraded our Video-On-Demand services including more hours of

free programming and, in the coming months, will be adding 10 new HD channels. We've continued our 24/7 technical support for all cable delivered services and offer service calls at no charge; usually as next business day appointments. The carriage of the Univision and Telefutura, Spanish language stations were secured just in time for the World Cup Events. DOCSIS 3.0 Internet service with speeds of up to 100 Mbps down will also be available this Summer.

San Bruno Cable, as an integral part of this community, strives to meet the needs of our customers, offering the latest technologies with comparable services at competitive prices. We are grateful to our loyal customers for making us the choice entertainment and telecommunication service provider of the community.

## UPCOMING ... SUMMER EVENTS!

Below are some upcoming Community Services Department events and activities. Contact the Recreation Center staff at (650) 616-7180 or the Library staff at (650) 616-7079 for more details on these programs. You can also sign-up for the Community Services Department's e-newsletter by going to the Adults 50+, Library, Parks or Recreation pages of the City's website at [www.sanbruno.ca.gov](http://www.sanbruno.ca.gov).

### Pool Opens and Summer Camps Begin June 14th

Join the summer aquatics staff for swim lessons, recreational swim, water aerobics, and lap swim. Sign up for summer day camp and enjoy arts and crafts, games, swimming, field trips and much more with the fun recreation leaders.

### Flea Markets 9:00am to 4:00pm

Here's your chance to turn some unwanted goods into your treasure! Or reserve a space and make some extra money selling your unwanted items.

<b>Sunday, July 25</b>	San Bruno City Park
<b>Sunday, August 15</b>	Commodore Park
<b>Sunday, September 12</b>	San Bruno City Park

### Summer Reading Program

A variety of activities will be conducted at the Library in conjunction with the Summer Reading Program.

<b>June 30</b>	Pirate Fun with Captain Jack Spareribs	7:00pm
<b>July 7</b>	Puppet Show with Quack & Wabbit	4:00pm
<b>July 14</b>	Kids Songs with Nancy Cassidy	3:00pm
<b>July 21</b>	Masks and Movement with Dianna Craig	3:00pm
<b>July 28</b>	Magic Show and annual Ice Cream Social	3:00pm

### Concerts at the Rotary Pavilion

Come out and enjoy the annual free concert series in San Bruno City Park. Concerts begin promptly at 6:00pm.

#### Dates and bands will be:

<b>August 6</b>	Double Funk Crunch
<b>August 13</b>	City Rocks
<b>August 20</b>	The Refugees
<b>August 27</b>	Just for Kicks

### Movies in City Park

#### Fridays in September

Sit back and relax in City Park and watch a movie with your family and friends. A concession stand will be open for snacks and drinks! Movie dates are **September 3, 10, 17 & 24**.

### Family Overnight September 10th

Pack your tent and sleeping bags or sleep out under the stars in San Bruno City Park. Enjoy a dinner, organized games and a movie with your family and friends.

CITY OF SAN BRUNO  
567 El Camino Real  
San Bruno, CA 94066

SAN BRUNO CITY COUNCIL

Mayor  
Jim Ruane

Vice Mayor  
Rico E. Medina

Councilmembers  
Ken Ibarra  
Irene O’Connell  
Michael Salazar

City Manager  
Connie Jackson

City Clerk  
Carol Bonner

City Treasurer  
John Marty

Website:  
[www.sanbruno.ca.gov](http://www.sanbruno.ca.gov)

We welcome your comments.  
Please call Randy Schwartz at  
(650) 616-7181, or email him at  
[rschwartz@sanbruno.ca.gov](mailto:rschwartz@sanbruno.ca.gov).

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RECYCLING TIPS FOR SUMMER

Summer is on its way; the warm weather, BBQs, picnics and special outings with family and friends! With so many fun events taking place during the Summer, we can sometimes forget that our everyday recycling practices are still important. Remember – don’t toss everything into one garbage bag at the end of a party

Here are some tips to promote your recycling efforts during the Summer:

- **Hosting a BBQ?** Avoid paper products. Use reusable plastic plates and utensils for food and plastic cups for drinks. Used cups and plastic utensils can now be placed into your blue recycling cart after use and reusable plates can be washed and saved for your next party.
- **Children can create your own recycling bins.** Use cardboard boxes and have your children decorate the boxes to use at your next outdoor gathering. Children love to teach others and will take pride in sharing their decorated boxes!
- **Picnic at the beach or park?** Pack your food in reusable containers and bags rather than using plastic bags or disposable containers. If you have leftover food, you can bring it home to have the next day, rather than tossing it in the garbage.
- **Having a company picnic?** People tend to recycle more if it is made easy and convenient. Put a recycling container next to each garbage can and you will find people will be more likely to recycle than not.

These are just a few ideas to help you reduce waste this summer. If you have questions or want more recycling tips, please call **Recology San Bruno** at **650-583-8536** or visit their website at **[www.recologysanbruno.com](http://www.recologysanbruno.com)**.

Frequently Called Numbers  
(Area Code 650)

Building Permits	616-7076
Business Taxes & Licenses	616-7083
Cable TV	616-3100
City Clerk	616-7058
City Council	616-7060
City Manager	616-7056
Code Enforcement	616-7074
Finance	616-7080
Fire - Business	616-7096
Graffiti Hotline	616-7141
Human Resources	616-7055
Library	616-7078
Recreation	616-7180
Parks	616-7195
Planning	616-7074
Police - Business	616-7100
Public Works/Corp. Yard	616-7160
Public Works/Engineering	616-7065
Senior Center	616-7150
Streets	616-7161
Utility Billing	616-7086
EMERGENCY	9 1 1